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Dear producers and other data users:

Information contained herein is the result of mail, phone and personal interview surveys conducted during the past few weeks. Special recognition and appreciation are extended to all producers and agribusinesses who provided data making these reports possible.

William G. Hamlin
State Statistician

March Prospective Plantings

As of March 1, Nebraska corn growers expect to plant 8.4 million acres in 2002, up 4 percent from last year but 1 percent below 2000. This increase in plantings would stop the downward trend in corn which began in 1998. Nebraska soybean producers expect to plant 4.9 million acres, down 1 percent from the record high set last year but 5 percent above 2000. Last fall, winter wheat was sown on 1.7 million acres, down 3 percent from a year earlier and two years ago. Sorghum growers expect to plant

400,000 acres, 27 percent less than 2001 and down 33 percent from 2000. Hay acreage for harvest, at 3.2 million acres, would be down 2 percent from last year. Oat planting intentions at 175,000 acres are up 13 percent from 2001. Dry edible bean producers intend to plant 175,000 acres, up 9 percent from a year earlier. Sugar beet plantings of 56,000 acres would be up 15 percent from 2001. Sunflower planting intentions of 80,000 acres are down 2 percent.

Crop Summary: Acres Planted, Nebraska and United States, 2000-2002

CROP	Nebraska				United States			
	2000	2001	Inten- tions 2002 ¹	<u>2002</u> 2001	2000	2001	Inten- tions 2002 ¹	<u>2002</u> 2001
	<i>1,000 acres</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>1,000 acres</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
Corn	8,500	8,100	8,400	104	79,551	75,752	79,047	104
Soybeans	4,650	4,950	4,900	99	74,266	74,105	72,966	98
Sorghum	600	550	400	73	9,195	10,252	9,015	88
Oats	130	155	175	113	4,477	4,403	5,129	116
Oats for Grain	45	60	80	133	2,329	1,905	2,531	133
Barley	7	5	5	100	5,864	4,967	5,078	102
Dry Beans	165	160	175	109	1,758.2	1,429.9	1,766.5	124
Sugar Beets	78.2	48.6	56.0	115	1,564.2	1,371.1	1,418.4	103
All Hay ²	3,050	3,250	3,200	98	59,854	63,511	63,743	100
All Wheat	1,750	1,750	1,700	97	62,629	59,617	59,004	99
Winter Wheat	1,750	1,750	1,700	97	43,393	41,078	41,076	100
Sunflower - Oil	55	52	55	106	2,248	2,139	2,097	98
- Non-oil	35	30	25	83	592	514	396	77
- All	90	82	80	98	2,840	2,653	2,493	94

¹Intended plantings as indicated by reports from farmers. ² Intended acres for harvest as indicated by reports from farmers.
Source: USDA NASS Prospective Plantings, March 28, 2002.

Grain Stocks

Nebraska corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 707 million bushels, up 3 percent from March 1, 2001. Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 93 million bushels, down 1 percent from last year's record high. Wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2002 totaled 51 million bushels, down 7 percent from a year ago.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 5.80 billion bushels, down 4 percent from March 1, 2001. Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 1.34 billion bushels, down 5 percent from March 1, 2001. All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 1.21 billion bushels, down 10 percent from a year ago.

Grain Stocks: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, 2000-2002

Grain and Position	Nebraska				United States			
	March 1, 2000	March 1, 2001	March 1, 2002	<u>2002</u> 2001	March 1, 2000	March 1, 2001	March 1, 2002	<u>2002</u> 2001
	<i>Thousand bushels</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>Thousand bushels</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
Corn								
On Farms	425,000	410,000	410,000	100	3,300,000	3,600,000	3,355,000	93
Off Farms ¹	264,660	276,714	297,176	107	2,301,895	2,442,999	2,441,473	100
Total	689,660	686,714	707,176	103	5,601,895	6,042,999	5,796,473	96
All Wheat								
On Farms	11,000	7,200	8,000	111	424,680	384,750	338,500	88
Off Farms ¹	48,336	47,687	43,091	90	991,841	953,648	872,223	91
Total	59,336	54,887	51,091	93	1,416,521	1,338,398	1,210,723	90
Soybeans								
On Farms	42,000	34,000	27,000	79	730,000	780,000	687,000	88
Off Farms ¹	48,684	59,677	66,041	111	665,986	623,908	648,976	104
Total	90,684	93,677	93,041	99	1,395,986	1,403,908	1,335,976	95
Sorghum								
On Farms	9,500	7,900	6,000	76	51,700	40,100	38,100	95
Off Farms ¹	21,846	20,313	17,911	88	173,932	127,027	156,151	123
Total	31,346	28,213	23,911	85	225,632	167,127	194,251	116
Oats								
On Farms	1,800 ₂	800 ₂	1,000 ₂	125	53,300	55,800	39,800	71
Off Farms ¹					48,500	54,128	52,997	98
Total	₂	₂	₂		101,800	109,928	92,797	84

¹ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Source: USDA NASS Grain Stocks, March 28, 2002.

Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary March 2002 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Nebraska			United States				
		Mar 2001 ¹	Feb 2002 ¹	Mar 15, 2002	Mar 2001 ¹	Feb 2002 ¹	Mar 15, 2002	% of Parity	Parity Price ²
Wheat	Bushels	\$ 2.93	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.87	\$ 2.83	\$ 2.81	30	\$ 9.38
Corn	Bushels	1.98	1.90	1.86	1.96	1.93	1.92	30	6.35
Oats	Bushels	1.48	1.71	1.70	1.24	1.91	1.97	51	3.87
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	3.35	3.27	3.23	3.29	3.26	3.29	30	10.80
Soybeans	Bushels	4.25	4.09	4.25	4.39	4.21	4.39	32	13.90
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	84.00	64.00	61.00	90.10	90.40	91.40		
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	88.00	67.00	62.00	95.00	99.50	98.80		
Other, Baled	Ton	74.00	56.00	57.00	75.10	70.80	73.00		
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	14.90	20.00	19.90	14.90	26.20	26.90	57	47.00
Hogs	Cwt.	47.90	42.00	40.80	45.90	38.50	36.30	36	100.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	48.10	42.30	41.00	46.50	39.00	36.60		
Sows	Cwt.	35.90	27.50	30.90	34.70	27.80	30.10		
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	77.10	71.90	74.00	76.00	69.90	71.60	46	155.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	78.10	72.90	75.00	80.50	73.60	75.30		
Cows	Cwt.	43.40	39.00	40.90	42.30	40.60	42.40		
Calves	Cwt.	110.00	110.00	108.00	112.00	105.00	104.00	50	206.00
Sheep	Cwt.	42.90	37.00		46.60	35.30			74.00
Lambs	Cwt.	79.20	66.50		84.00	67.40			175.00

¹ Entire month average except hay.

² Parity price based on data for March 2002.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, March 27, 2002.

Hogs and Pigs

Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2002, was 2.95 million head. This was 2 percent above both March 2001 and December 1, 2001. Breeding inventory, at 390,000 head, was up 8 percent from March 1, 2001 and 5 percent above last quarter. Market inventory was 1 percent above last year.

Inventory of all hogs and pigs in the United States was 58.7 million head on March 1, 2002. This was 2 percent above last year but 1 percent below December 1, 2001. Breeding inventory, at 6.24 million head, was up slightly from both last year and last quarter. Market inventory was 2 percent above last year.

Hogs and Pigs: March 1 Inventory, Sows Farrowing and Pig Crop, Nebraska and United States 2001-2002

Item	Nebraska			United States		
	2001	2002	2002/2001	2001	2002	2002/2001
	<i>1,000 head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
March 1 Inventory						
All hogs and pigs	2,900	2,950	102	57,524	58,698	102
Breeding	360	390	108	6,232	6,236	100
Market	2,540	2,560	101	51,292	52,461	102
Market Hogs & Pigs						
Under 60 pounds	990	1,040	105	18,737	19,381	103
60-119 pounds	650	660	102	12,417	12,730	103
120-179 pounds	510	490	96	10,805	10,914	101
180 pounds and over	390	370	95	9,334	9,436	101
Sows Farrowing						
December-February ¹	140	170	121	2,748	2,832	103
March-May	160	175 ²	109	2,870	2,896 ²	101
June-August	155	180 ²	116	2,878	2,896 ²	101
September-November	160			2,846		
Total Sows Farrowing	615			11,342		
Pig Crop						
December-February ¹	1,232	1,496	121	23,963	24,711	103
March-May	1,408			25,509		
June-August	1,349			25,539		
September-November	1,384			24,972		
Total Pig Crop ³	5,373			99,983		

¹ December preceding year.

² Intentions.

³ May not add due to rounding.

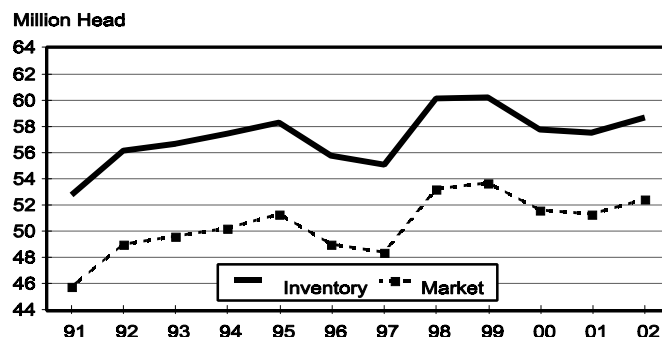
Source: USDA NASS Quarterly Hog and Pigs, March 28, 2002.

March 1 Hog Report Highlights

- * U.S. inventory up 2 percent from March 2001. Expectations of private forecasters averaged 101 percent of the previous year with a range of 100.0 percent to 102.0 percent.
- * Market hogs were up 2 percent from a year earlier. Private forecasters' expectations ranged from 100.0 percent to 102.0 percent with an average of 101 percent.
- * Breeding herd was up slightly from a year earlier. Expectations of private forecasters ranged from 99.0 percent to 101.6 percent with an average of 100 percent.
- * U.S. December-February pig crop was up 3 percent from a year earlier. Analysts expected the pig crop to be 103 percent of previous year; estimates ranged from 102.0 percent to 104.0 percent.
- * March-May intentions are up 1 percent from actual farrowings a year earlier. June-August intentions are up 1 percent from the previous years actual farrowings.

- * Commercial hog slaughter during December-February at 24.6 million head was 1 percent above a year earlier. Live hog imports were 1.44 million head, up 24 percent from a year earlier. Total exports increased to 45,000 head, compared to 5,000 a year ago.

March 1 Hog Inventory & Market Hogs United States



Commercial Livestock Slaughter

February 2002 number slaughtered and changes from last year and last month are shown below. February 2001 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. February 2002 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, February 2002 with Comparisons

Item	Total ¹	Feb 2002 Percent of	
		Feb 2001	Jan 2002
Nebraska	<i>1,000 Head</i>		
Cattle, head	561.7	102	86
Hogs, head	526.9	100	85
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	557.6	108	86
United States			
Cattle, head	2,614.8	101	86
Calves, head	73.0	93	84
Hogs, head	7,500.0	99	87
Sheep & Lambs, head	256.1	104	100
Red Meat, mil, lbs.	3,501.1	103	86

¹ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, March 22, 2002.

Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, February 2002 with Comparisons

Commodity	Stocks	Feb 2002 Percent of	
		Feb 2001	Jan 2002
1,000 lbs			
Total red meats	956,286	112	99
Beef	430,438	119	96
Pork	505,315	108	101
Poultry	1,134,060	111	108
Turkey	402,089	121	124
Chicken	724,826	106	101

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, March 20, 2002.

Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, February 2002 with Comparisons

Item	2001	2002	2002/2001
	<i>Millions</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Number of Layers			
Nebraska	11.7	11.6	99
30 States	314.7	316.2	100
United States	335.8	336.9	100
Eggs Produced			
Nebraska	231	220	95
30 States	6,115	6,146	101
United States	6,524	6,557	101
Chickens Hatched, February			
United States			
Egg-type	38.2	34.3	90
Broiler	670.5	702.6	105

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, March 22, 2002.

Wool: Number of Sheep and Lambs Shorn, Weight per Fleece, Production, Price and Value, Nebraska and United States 1999-2001

State	Sheep and Lambs Shorn ¹	Weight per Fleece	Production	Price per Pound	Value
<i>Nebraska 1,000 head Pounds 1,000 pounds Dollars 1,000 dollars</i>					
1999	89	7.6	675	.24	162
2000	95	7.2	685	.18	123
2001	85	7.3	620	.20	124
<i>United States</i>					
1999	6,158	7.6	46,592	.38	17,860
2000	6,135	7.6	46,446	.33	15,377
2001	5,689	7.6	43,016	.36	15,311

¹ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

Source: USDA NASS Sheep and Goats, February 1, 2002.

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